7: International Bank N. S-4 (1951) 1952 MH1 Iraq MH1

in Basra, close to both shipping and the agricultural area which may prove suitable for the growing of jute. It would employ about 300 workers.

Automobile Tires

The importation of automobile and truck tires is increasing at a rate of approximately 15 percent per annum, the value of all tires imported in 1950 being ID 468,000.

A plant of economic size to manufacture tires could be justified with a market of approximately twice that which now exists. Such a market will probably be reached in 1955. Since it would require approximately two years to construct a tire plant, it is recommended that plans be formulated to start such a plant in 1953.

The plant would be so designed as to utilize the maximum amount of labor and, accordingly, should cost no more than ID 750,000, including foreign exchange of ID 600,000, mainly pounds sterling. It could be financed by private capital with the assistance of the Industrial Bank. Foreign technicians would be required during the first years of its operation.

Salt

Geophysical work gives conclusive evidence of a very large salt dome near Basra. Unfortunately, the analysis is not known. This dome could be the source of very cheap salt for both export and domestic consumption. It might make feasible the establishment of an alkali plant, particularly since the nearby oil field would be able to furnish gas as a source of cheap power. It is recommended, therefore, that core drilling of this dome be started as soon as possible to permit a proper evaluation of the possibilities of its use.

Sugar Mill

Considerable thought has been given to the recommendation of a sugar refinery. Such an enterprise would, of course, have to depend on agriculture to supply the raw material, either in the form of sugar beets or sugar cane. Since this cannot be assured at this time, it is recommended that the development of this industry be held in abeyance for the present.

35: Hooper and Field 3-5 (1934) 1937 MAI Iran MAI
Iraq MHI

I-I
278*
824*

Bizre Kattane (Schl.); the names for linseed in India are Alsi, Atasi, and Alashi; linseed.

Ph. Ind. 1: 239.

Field 21; 63, 67 (Moroccan and River Plate seeds from Iraq); W.H.M.M. 150809, 150920; K.B. 326.

Aitchison informs us that in Afghanistan the flax plant and seed are known as Zagher; the oil of the seed as Roghan-i-zagher; the fiber and linen cloth as Katan or Katun. The plant is cultivated in Turkestan for the oil of its seeds, but, as in India, the fiber is not collected. In Iraq Moroccan linseed has been distributed in considerable quantities as Indian varieties have been severely attacked by rust disease (G.). The oil is valued for various industrial purposes and the seeds are eaten as sweetmeats.—Boiled with *Althaea* sp., the seeds are used as a poultice for boils (H.F.).

[385]

Lolium rigidum Gaud. (Gramineae)

824*
[231]

گل چمن

Gul-i-chaman (Teh.); Ziwan (Iraq); rigid rye grass; seeds.

W.H.M.M. 150705.

This is a tufted annual grass grazed by sheep and other animals. It is related to the darnel grass (*L. temutenlum*), "Jamdar," which is regarded as an obnoxious weed, since its seeds are sometimes infected by an ergot fungus generating a narcotic poison. The use of the seeds sold in Tehran is not known.

Loranthus Grewinkii Boiss. and Bunge (Loranthaceae)

824*
278*

کشمش کولی

Kishmish-i-kūlī (Teh.); Kishmish-kawali (Ind. bazaars); Dibk (Ar.); mistletoe berries.

Field 139; W.H.M.M. 150756.

These fruits are called raisins of Kawali, Kawali being the name for gypsies in Iraq and Iran. Le Bode in his "Travels in Lauristan and Arabistan" mentions his being shown in the forests of the Zagros Mountains, on the road from Kermanshah to Baghdad, a fruit called by the natives Angur-i-kauli (Kawali) or grapes of Kauli, a parasite on the oak. The dried berries are rounded, 8 mm. in diameter, soft, dark brown, and shriveled, and have one seed. They are mawkish in taste, containing a form of caoutchouc which can be drawn out in threads. The author of the "Makhzan-el-Adwiya"